

THE CLARION.

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Gov. Lowry's Letter Explaining Why He Declines to Call an Extra Session.

JACKSON, MISS., July 3d, 1883.
Messrs. George R. Smith, J. B. Perkins and D. M. Russell, Committee:

GENTLEMEN: I have given the request of the Levee Convention to call an extra session of the Legislature the serious consideration which its importance, and the high character of its members required. Acting for the whole State, and every section of it, and anxious that every act of my administration shall redound to the public good, and animated alone by a desire to advance the welfare of the people of the State, I have been unable to reach the conclusion that the "case of emergency" has arisen, which, in the meaning of the Constitution, justifies me in convening the Legislature in extraordinary session and especially when such meeting would take place but a few months prior to the next regular session of that body.

I am with great respect,
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT LOWRY.

THE Vicksburg Herald says "it would be for Singleton if it thought there was any possibility of his election, but as there is none in its opinion, Mr. Carlisle is its choice." Mr. Carlisle is a good man. He will make a splendid alternate for Singleton.

The Mississippi Repudiated Bonds.

A commission may be expected to wait on the next Legislature; and a decent regard for the good name of the State, as well as for the opinion of mankind, will require that body to set forth the true facts appertaining to the repudiation of what is known as the "repudiated bonds."

The Mississippi River Question.

The Governor of Louisiana has caused to be held a levee convention, which has advised the holding of a general convention of the States through which the Mississippi flows, beginning with Missouri. The object of the Convention is to bring an influence to bear upon Congress to make an appropriation for the improvement of the navigation of that great National River. It is a sad commentary upon the want of statesmanship that a measure so intrinsically and manifestly proper and within the scope of the powers and duties of Congress, should require such a movement to secure the attention of that body. We presume that no member who represents a constituency in the valley of the Mississippi, or bordering it, will be derelict. Disconnected from minor questions, the improvement of the Mississippi should stand on its own merits, and receive the consideration which its paramount importance demands.

Civil Service Reform, or What?

It has been put to the credit of Mr. President Arthur that he has turned his back on Mahone and his renegades in Virginia. His course in consolidating the Internal Revenue Districts show that he is not entitled to the credit. The well informed Washington correspondent of the Picayune says that in reducing the five Internal Revenue districts in Virginia to three the President has dropped Collectors Batts and Rives, who had refused to wear Mahone's collar, and kept in the three officers whom Mahone favored. It is conceded that Mahone's suggestions and demands, are very promptly granted by the President. The same facts are stated substantially in the New York Herald. Is this the civil service reform the President recommended in his message and approved in the Pendleton bill, or what?

Jackson the Next Place for Holding the Press Convention.

A committee has been appointed by a meeting of the citizens of Jackson, presided over by our distinguished townsman Judge Wharton, to wait on the Press Convention at Columbus, and tender them the hospitalities of the city for holding their next annual Convention. The Committee will take pleasure in performing this agreeable duty and we hope the invitation so cordially extended, will be accepted by the Convention. Among other inducements will be afforded to the members, an opportunity of visiting and inspecting the various benevolent institutions founded by the wisdom and charity of the State for the benefit of the unfortunate and the afflicted. We would be rejoiced if the press with its Argus eyes could inspect these establishments for itself, and behold the excellence of their management in the hands to which they have been confided. There are other objects of interest at the Capital well worth the visit.

And this reminds us that the Convention, to avoid the hot weather, should fix its time for meeting at a day not later than the first of June.

Since the foregoing was put in type, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of this city have had a meeting and officially endorsed the action of the citizens.

Signed Away.

The power, then, to supervise corporations "within Constitutional limits"—so far as Mississippi is concerned—"by Legislative authority," was signed away by the Legislature of 1882 to the new companies that it chartered, and only exists, if at all, in reference to the old roads. And even in the instance of one of the old roads, its right and left arms are free and carefully protected, while our cotemporary and those who think with him, are clamorous for an opportunity to shackle the parent stem.—Aberdeen Examiner.]

The foregoing declaration has been repeatedly made by the Examiner, whose zeal outruns its discretion, as we have taken it for granted that no railroad attorney, nor accredited representative of the corporations, would venture so rash an assumption. We will venture to say that there was no "bargain" or "contract," or anything else, expressed or implied, to authorize the declaration. A general supervisory bill passed the House with but fifteen dissenting votes. It failed in the Senate for want of agreement among the friends of supervision as to the details. Numerous friends of supervision, among them the able and distinguished champion of the doctrine, Hon. T. H. Woods, of Lauderdale, knowing the existence of the power in the absence of such clause, opposed its insertion in the charters because not only supererogatory in its effect, but embarrassing to the companies. Nobody thought that the Legislature was tying the hands of the future Legislatures by the liberal charters it gave. It could not have done so if it would, and would not if it could.

The Examiner to prove that the Legislature has disarmed the State of its right of control, cites a provision in one of the charters fixing a maximum beyond which the companies could not go in prescribing its tolls. We happen to have before us an extract from a decision of the Supreme Court of Tennessee (Ragan vs Aiken, 9 Sec. 609) on that very point. "That the intent was * * * to fix a maximum beyond which the company could not go, and leave the tariff of charges within that limit to the company subject to the rule of the common law that the charges should be reasonable and to the regulating power of the Courts and the Legislature." Meaning, as expressed by an eminent jurist, that charters like the one referred to by the Examiner, do not imply any legislative contract not to regulate the rates of the company even within the maximum rates beyond which the company is forbidden to go. But there is still higher authority. It is the very recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, from which there is no appeal, that a clause in a charter authorizing a company to fix its rates of toll, is not a contract restraining the State from enforcing supervisory legislation. How in the face of this decision our cotemporary, the Examiner, has reached its conclusion that the Legislature has forever tied the hands of the State in the matter of regulating corporations, we are utterly at a loss to conceive. At all events the extraordinary assumption of the Examiner, if it speaks by authority, will necessarily precipitate a settlement of the issue, so that the people and the corporations may, exactly understand their rights respectively.

THE link in the Memphis, Vicksburg & New Orleans Railroad between Vicksburg and Port Gibson, will be finished in a week, and the occasion will be celebrated at Vicksburg on the 18th with every proper token of rejoicing. Gov. Lowry, Senator George and other distinguished men have signified their acceptance to join in the celebration. It will be a grand demonstration.

THE N. Y. Evening Post communicates the pleasant information that "there is to-day a more cordial feeling in the North toward the Southern people, and a heartier sympathy with the efforts of the latter to develop their prosperity and well-being, than there has been at any time during the last 40 or 50 years." It has never yet transpired what has caused the North to cherish unkind feelings for the South. The latter never sought to interfere with the affairs of the other, and has always scrupulously attended to her own business. If the North was angered on account of the "peculiar institution" that once appertained to the South, the North was largely responsible for it. When African slaves ceased to be a profitable investment in the Northern climate, they were sent South by the philanthropists who put the money in their pockets and quieted their consciences by abusing the "slaveholding oligarchy." We are glad, however, that the era of good feeling has come at last, and would not, for the world, do anything to disturb it.

BEFORE the cotton season opens, we will hope to be present at the linking of Yazoo City and Jackson with the iron band of the Yazoo Valley Road, and to witness the mingling of the crystal drops of the Pearl with the golden waters of the Yazoo.

PUBLIC lands which were donated to the States for internal improvements, and which in consequence of the war, they were unable to utilize within the times specified in the original grant, should be confirmed to them by additional legislation. But corporations which have forfeited lands should be compelled to disgorge their ill-gotten plunder.

THE Scott liquor bill which the Supreme Court of Ohio has pronounced constitutional, assesses \$200 yearly against every saloon engaged in the sale of vinous and spirituous liquors to minors and to persons who are in the habit of becoming intoxicated. The revenues and fines from this law are to be distributed, one-fourth to the poor fund of the county, and the remaining three-fourths equally between the police and general funds of the city. Where corporations have no police fund, the three-fourths shall be placed in the general fund.

OUR correspondent "Record" returns to his assault upon Col. Singleton for voting against what was known as the "filibustering" motions to stop the electoral count after it had commenced under the Electoral Commission bill, and says that THE CLARION fails to perceive the "point" of its objection, or "desires" to shift the grounds of "its (conditional) nomination." He is altogether mistaken. We see "the point," and know, too, what we are driving at. We know that on the main question of creating the Electoral Commission, Randall supported the Commission, and Singleton opposed it; and therefore we said Singleton could be trusted if the expedient which, according to Senator Edmunds who reported the Commission bill, saved the Republican party from destruction and lost the Democrats their victory, should be attempted again. Referring of course to the creation of another Commission for counting the vote of 1884, we said: "If it is to enter the canvass for Speaker, THE CLARION puts in nomination O. R. Singleton, of Mississippi."

On the "filibustering" proposition in the Democratic party, on the one side were such men as the late Ben. Hill, Lamar, Landers, Regan, Singleton, Throckmorton, Watterson and Fernando Wood, etc.; on the other, were Cox, Knott, Hooker, Money, Springer, etc. We repeat that at this stage of the contest our sympathies were with the last; but it sinks into significance compared with the main issue of the creation of the Commission, for if there had been no Commission there would have been no "steal" and no need of filibustering. We have examined the roll of the "immortal seventeen" who voted against the measure, and it embraces no name among the members of the 48th Congress so conspicuous as that of O. R. Singleton.

Just here, let us add that we have not intended to throw a "boomerang" at Mr. Randall as our correspondent imagines. We did not revive the matter of the Electoral Commission at all. We do not approve of its revival by the World. It ought not to enter into the choice of Speaker. So far as Mr. Randall is concerned, barring what is said to be his position on the Tariff with reference to the interests of his immediate constituents, there is not a better man in Congress, and on the Tariff he is as sound as the Louisiana Democrats who are for a high Tariff on sugar; or as certain Georgia and Alabama Democrats who want the Tariff kept up on iron; or the Missouri Democrats who advocate protection for their favorite industry of zinc and lead; or Senator Voorhees who is a protectionist on general principles.

Not Available.

Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, the same who as Chairman of the National Executive Committee, and Representative in Congress, figured so ignobly in the Presidential steal of 1877, has been thought of by somebody for President. But with blushing modesty, he thinks he can't stand the racket. First and foremost, he thinks the next President is likely to be giteaued, and he would prefer not to be sacrificed. He says, moreover, that the race of great statesmen has about passed away. He appears to feel a good deal like the man who remarked that all the great and good men in the country were fast dying off and he didn't feel very well himself.

IN the consolidation of the Internal Revenue districts of North Carolina, the President has restored to his position William H. Wheeler as Internal Revenue Collector, with enlarged jurisdiction. Mr. Wheeler was removed in 1880 through the influence of Mr. John Sherman, then Secretary of the Treasury, on the real or pretended ground of unworthiness. Is this the Civil service reform contemplated in the act of Congress?

MR. A. Q. MAY, one of the youngest and one of the best Sheriffs Simpson county has ever had, refuses to become a candidate for the office a second term.

Waiting for the Wagon.

Aberdeen Examiner.] Representative Barksdale is exactly right in declining to map out his program six months in advance of the meeting of the Democratic caucus. It is enough for us to know that he will support the nominees, and we did not require any assurances from his lips or pen to convince us of that. Between now and the assembling of Congress many complications may arise; many questions may assume new phases and men may assume new positions in reference to old issues, that exist within each party instead of constituting dividing lines between the parties. There is utter lack of unanimity in each party on the questions of currency, coinage, tariff, river and harbor expenditures, public land grants, internal revenue, inter-State Commerce, presidential succession, postal savings banks, national banks, national quarantine, Mississippi levees, and other subjects of greater or less importance, and it is due to himself and his constituents that every member of Congress belonging to the dominant party should give these matters due consideration in the selection of his candidate for Speaker.

MR. L. W. CARRADINE, Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Jefferson county, announces through the Chronicle that the Democratic party in each Supervisor's District will meet on Saturday the 21st day of July for the purpose of electing one member of the Democratic Executive Committee from each district, to serve the ensuing year; and that the new committee meet at Fayette on Saturday, the 4th day of August for organization.

PASCAGOULA DEMOCRAT-STAR: Col. James B. McRae is announced in this issue as a candidate for the Legislature from this county, subject to the action of the Democratic party, and wants every Democrat in the county to vote for him. Col. McRae served in the last Legislature with ability, and made a good representative, and should be returned will serve his constituents faithfully and well. So far he has no opposition, and it seems that he will have a walk-over.

IN answer to a correspondent the Chicago Journal says that Congress has enacted that the bonds, notes, (greenbacks) and other securities of the United States, shall not be subject to State, county or municipal taxation. National bank notes are the issues of private corporations. The General Government levies a tax on the bank circulation of the country, and these notes in the hands of holders are also taxable as personal property.

THE false reports that were first sent out concerning the Mansfield murder, through the press, should be a warning to reporters as well as to the public, to be on their guard. The good name of the murdered minister, whose reputation had hitherto been untarnished, was associated, in the public mind with the perpetration of an infamous crime when the testimony since elicited shows that there was no foundation for even a suspicion. It was bad enough that he should suffer death, and his family the pangs of worse than death in his loss and the deep damnation of his taking off, but it was an indescribable wrong to send him to his grave with a name blackened by undeserved reproach.

Death of a Centenarian.

Mrs. Ragus, mother-in-law of David Smith of the neighborhood of Georgetown, Copiah county, died of dropsy at his house on Sunday night the 1st of July, aged 103 years. She left two children, her son Gilbert Ragus and Mrs. David Smith, both old people, with grown children. Mrs. Ragus has been in the enjoyment of the best of health until within the last twelve months and was very active for her great age. She was universally beloved in the neighborhood.

Pre-Eminently Qualified.

Ripley Sentinel.] The papers of Mississippi, with but few exceptions, second the nomination of Hon. O. R. Singleton for Speaker of the next House. Otho R. Singleton is pre-eminently qualified for the exalted position of Speaker.

Liberty Herald: James L. Whittington is a candidate for the Legislature at the ensuing November election. Mr. Whittington is, we believe a native of this county, and has been following the farmer's occupation all his life. He is an active member of the Grange organization, and understands as well as any man in the county, the needs of that large class of our citizens who are engaged in the same pursuit.

THE desolated town of Beauregard has not succumbed to misfortune. The people have gone to work to rebuild. Fourteen new business houses are already up and there is a demand for town lots. The Railroad company is preparing a commodious depot. The town has been the seat of a large and prosperous trade and it will so continue.

WHAT'S the Vicksburg Herald mad with Col. Singleton about?

Gen. Chalmers' "Independents" are playing their little parts, in the Capitol to-day.

KEMPER COUNTY recommends Maj. Evans for floater from Lauderdale and Kemper.

EVERY dollar of needless expense, whether by municipal, county, State, or federal government, is robbery of the people.

RICHARD GRIGGS, (col.) of Washington county, Commissioner of Immigration during the Ames administration, died on the 2d.

We have on file for next issue a sketch of the Commencement exercises of Mississippi College—received too late for insertion this week.

THE Missouri State Teachers' Association have passed the resolution that no member in the association should receive the title of Professor.

THE Utica Monitor is home-made throughout, fresh, newsy and bright, and holds the fort as the organ of the Gibraltar Democracy of Hinds.

THE Hon. Joseph K. Reed, who has been nominated for Judge of the State Supreme Court by the Republicans of Iowa, is 48 years old, and is a native of Ohio.

THE Aberdeen Examiner is an able paper and a fair controversialist. It does not garble its adversary's argument; nor distort his meaning; nor mix the ingredient of spite with its rejoinders.

IN answer to numerous calls Hon. H. C. Williamson is a candidate for re-election to the Legislature from Carroll. He was a prominent member of the last (or present) Legislature, and his record was exceptionally good.

"NAVE," the Jackson correspondent of the Memphis Avalanche, says that Mr. James Hill, Internal Revenue Collector and late Republican candidate for Congress in the 7th District, is in favor of the Hinds county fusion plan?

THE Norwegian bark Alma from Vera Cruz for Pascagoula arrived at Horn Island, having yellow fever on board, was sent to quarantine station at Ship Island. The second mate died. There is said to be another case on board.

CASES of yellow fever are quarantined at Ship Island, close at our doors. The National Health Board having been practically disbanded by Congress, the sole reliance of our people will be upon the State Health authorities.

THE cash sales of land in the United States Land office in this city, for June was 16,959 acres, amounting to \$24,405. Ninety-five homestead entries were made, aggregating 12,865 acres, bringing \$1,170, and eleven final home proofs.

THE Madison county Democrats have instructed for Robert Powell for District Attorney, of the 9th District; the Kemper Democrats, for J. H. Neville, of the 7th District; and the Pike county Democrats, for H. Q. Bridges of the 10th District.

MR. BAYARD thinks there is an irreparable conflict between the accumulated wealth of the privileged classes and corporate power, on the one hand, and the People on the other. It would seem so. The latter will triumph in the end.

WE are glad to note that the delegation to Washington headed by Mr. Wright of the Vicksburg Herald, is likely to secure special river mail service between Natchez and Vicksburg. Capt. Periot will undertake the service, and will perform it well.

HON. H. C. WILLIAMSON, has withdrawn from the editorship of the Carroll Watchman. We are sorry to lose a co-laborer so able and efficient as he has shown himself to be. Mr. Williamson will be succeeded by Mr. John Armstead who will no doubt keep the paper up to its high standard.

WHAT is known as the Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans railway, forms a link in the Southern Pacific Railway system of C. P. Huntington, and consists of the Chesapeake and Ohio from Newport News to Memphis, thence a line to New Orleans to San Francisco, the whole making a transcontinental line from Chesapeake Bay to San Francisco.—Avalanche.

Mississippi Press Association.

This body meets at Columbus to-day, it being the eighteenth annual session. The Association was organized in this city in May 1866, and the attendance increased with each succeeding year. The minutes of the Association, together with all the essays, poems, etc., have been recently compiled by the first Secretary of the body, and the record will be presented to the Association. If the present does not prove to be one of the most pleasant meetings in the history of the Association, it will not be the fault of the hospitable and elegant people of Columbus.

Rankin County Nomination.

The Democracy of the Old F met in Convention Monday, and named a full ticket in a stormy cordant session. We learn that the nominees are as follows: For the Legislature, Wm. Buchanan, Dr. Sol. McElroy, Sheriff, D. H. Brown, (Mr. Atch), first nominated and declined; Clerk, Wm. Allen; Chancery Clerk, B. Bridges; Treasurer, W. C. We regret to learn that no meeting was exhibited over the contest between the two worthy and popular gentlemen who competed for the position of Chancery Clerk, and to the ing the discord in the Convention; but we trust that the excitement incident to a contest in which a feeling was enlisted, will pass under the influence of the sober thought, and that the brethren dwell in harmony together till election comes off. We learn that A. J. McLaurin, J. L. McCall, Pat. Henry poured oil on the waters in some temperate and remarks which were well received at the Convention.

THE Vicksburg Herald is in the passage by Congress of a law relating inter-State commerce and prohibiting unjust charges and discrimination by common carriers. In this connection, we are happy to be in full with our able cotemporary. It reminds us that O. R. Singleton has consistently championed the measure, his speech in support of it delivered January 15th, 1882, in the House of Representatives, is one of the ablest many arguments ever pronounced that side of a very live issue. An important question, at least, hope for some indulgence by the Speaker.

Regulating Commerce.

Both parties in Iowa occupy position on the question of regulating commerce. The following resolution was adopted by the Democrats in their recent State Convention: "That the power to regulate commerce belongs to the General Assembly, and that which relates to interstate commerce to Congress, and both so exercised as to establish a just librium between producers, traders and customers, and all arbitrary inroads, pools and combinations to prevent competition or work injury to communities or individuals, either by direct or non-competing should be prohibited, and such prohibition enacted that the General Assembly at session should enact a law providing the giving or receiving by public of any railway pass during their office, and the same should be subject to proper penalties against both parties and receivers."

Could be Depended on.

Brookhaven Leader.] Since mentioning Hon. O. R. Singleton for speaker on his record in opposition to the Electoral Commission, which he took an uncompromising stand there seems to be something of a favor. Col. Singleton is thorough, competent, and could be depended on to make a good Speaker, elected on record upon that issue or otherwise.

Revenue Districts Reduced in State.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The following statement shows the number of Revenue districts in each State and Territory: Alabama, 1; Nevada, 1; Connecticut, 1; Iowa, 1; Dakota, 1; Wyoming, 1; Arkansas, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; Virginia, 2; North Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 1; Kentucky, 2; Ohio, 1; Indiana, 3; Illinois, 2; Michigan, 2; Wisconsin, 2; Iowa, 1; Missouri, 2; Minnesota, 1; West Virginia, 1; Maryland, 1; Massachusetts, 1; New York, 6; Washington Territory, 1; New Jersey, 1; Idaho, 1; Montana, 1. Total, 46. It is stated at the Internal Revenue Bureau that the transfer of the same cannot be effected before the 1st of July.

By the foregoing arrangement it is seen that the Internal Revenue districts are not disturbed in their places in Mississippi.

The reduction will save only \$200,000. The whole cost of the Internal Revenue machinery is about \$5,000,000 annually. The next Congress should simply economize the system.

THE power to carry out the duties of the legislative supervision of corporations being now conceded, its opportunity fall back upon the position that it is expedient, first, because it will repel investment of capital in railroads in the State, and second, that no regulation supervision is needed for the reason that the managers of the common carriers have already adjusted fares on principles strictly just to them and to the public. The first objection has been completely refuted by the examples of States all around us, and especially Georgia and Alabama, to say nothing of the States of the North and West, where supervision has actually prospered railroads building. The second objection is answered by the specifications contained in the well-written communication copy into another column from the Meridian Observer.

MR. G. S. RAYMOND, a student from Mississippi, bore off the declaimers medal at the late Commencement of the Washington-Lee College, Lexington, Va.